

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 L-03 CU-04 DODE-00 PA-02 USIA-15

PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00 /059 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4968

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ILAB, PINT, IT

SUBJECT: LABOR DISPUTE IN SCHOOL SECTOR

GOVERNMENT NEGOTIATORS -- INCLUDING THE MINISTERS OF EDUCATION AND TREASURY -- ARE MEETING WITH UNION REPRESENTATIVES TODAY SEEKING TO RESOLVE A LABOR CONFLICT IN THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM. MATTERS ARE COMPLICATED BY THE PRESENCE OF TWO SEPARATE GROUPS OF UNIONS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS: THE EDUCATIONAL SECTOR UNIONS OF THE CCU (CGIL-CISL-UIL) AS WELL AS THE TWO LARGE AUTONOMOUS UNIONS, SNALS AND SNASE.

SALARIES AND GRADE CLASSIFICATIONS ARE THE PRIMARY ISSUES, WITH THE UNIONS ASSERTING THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS RENEGED, OR AT LEAST DRAGGED ITS FEET, ON EARLY PROMISES. THE CCU UNIONS HAVE ANNOUNCED TWO DAYS OF STRIKES (JUNE 1 AND 2) IF THE ISSUES ARE NOT RESOLVED TONIGHT; THE AUTONOMOUS UNIONS HAVE THREATENED TO HOLD UP FINAL EXAMS AND THE ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATES WHICH ARE NECESSARY FOR STUDENTS TO PASS ON TO THE NEXT YEAR OF SCHOOLING.

COMMENT: ORINARILY, THIS KIND OF DISAGREEMENT WOULD NOT BE PARTICULARLY NOTEWORTHY, BUT WITH RECENT EPISODES OF EXTREME STUDENT VIOLENCE STILL VIVIDLY IN MIND, CLOSER ATTENTION IS WARRANTED. INFORMED OBSERVERS ARE SAYING, HOWEVER, THAT THIS PARTICULAR LABOR PROBLEM IS UNLIKELY TO GIVE RISE TO ANY VIOLENCE. ON UNCLASSIFIED

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THE OTHER HAND, BY COINCIDENCE, THE PROHIBITION AGAINST PUBLIC MANIFESTATIONS IN ROME PROCLAIMED BY MINISTER OF INTERIOR COSSIAGE EXPIRES THIS EVENING AT MIDNIGHT. WHILE NO SPECIFIC INDICATIONS OF PLANNED DEMONSTRATIONS ARE PRESENT, AUTHORITIES ARE ON THE ALERT.

AS TO THE LABOR DSPUTE, PROSPECTS ARE GOOD FOR RESOLUTION OF THE

OUTSTANDING ISSUES TONIGHT IN WHICH CASE BOTH THE STRIKES AND
THE BLOCKAGE OF CERTIFICATES WOULD BE CANCELLED. THE TEACHER
UNIONS HAVE CHOSEN THIS PARTICULAR TIME TO ASSERT THEIR CLAIMS
SINCE, WITH THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR APPROACHING, THEY HAVE
MAXIMUM CLOUT.GARDNER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Sent Date: 31-May-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Reason:
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